



Quick Notes

from the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

April 25, 2011

Idaho Transportation Department - PO Box 7129 – Boise, ID 83707-1129
P: (208) 334-8100 F: (208) 334-4430 - - www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs

General Message from the Highway Safety Manager

Hi Highway Safety Partners,

Wow, the Highway Safety Summit was excellent again this year. The presenters did great jobs in the main sessions as well as the breakout sessions. It was a full day of learning and greeting friends. There were about 220 people in attendance. Some of the most poignant moments came when Sgt Ted Piche' recognized Dennis Clark for his heroism on a traffic stop in which he was shot.

I especially appreciated the executive breakout session where there was a healthy discussion regarding law enforcement's strong support for a primary seat belt law for Idaho. Maybe next year we can make more headway.

Anyway, kudos to Cecilia Awusie, Lisa Losness, and our Law Enforcement Liaisons for all the work they put into the summit. I think it moved Idaho further down the road to reduce traffic deaths, serious injuries, and economic losses.

Idaho's traffic deaths continue to be way below average. Through the month of March, our 3-year average was 40 traffic deaths. But through March 2011, we only had 17 traffic deaths. All but one fatality occurred on rural roads. In 2010, as of March, we had 30 traffic fatalities. This is such great news. In looking at fatality data from all states through March, Idaho had the greatest reduction of all states reporting if you compared 2011 to 2009. It is great to be in first place in this race!

Keep up the great work!

Mary Hunter
Highway Safety Manager

Highway Safety Summit USB Pens

Open pen here.



You may not have realized it, but the pen you received at the Highway Safety Summit last week is also a USB drive. The drive includes presentations from the summit speakers, reference material from the Office of Highway Safety and a list of participants and speakers at the conference. Be sure to check them out.

Rexburg Bans Texting While Driving

REXBURG, Idaho — The Rexburg City Council has passed an ordinance making it illegal to text while driving or crossing the street.

The council passed the ordinance 4-2 Wednesday night. Officers can fine first-time offenders \$50, and a second offense would cost \$150.

City Council President Chris Mann says the goal is to save lives. Council member Donna Benfield voted against the measure, arguing the ban on texting while crossing the street went too far.

Twin Falls and Meridian have passed laws banning texting and driving and Blackfoot is considering a similar ordinance.

Seat Belt Mobilization May 23 – June 7, 2011

The seat belt mobilization will begin on Monday May, 23, 2011. Below is a list of the agencies that have signed up to participate. If you do not see your agency listed, and you intend to participate, please contact Lisa Losness (208) 334-8103 or e-mail lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov.

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6
Bonnors Ferry PD Coeur D'Alene Ponderay PD Post Falls PD Priest River Rathdrum Sandpoint Spirit Lake Bonner CSO Kootenai County	Grangeville PD Lewiston Moscow Orofino Clearwater CSO ISP Region 2	Boise Eagle PD (Ada CSO) Emmett PD Fruitland PD Garden City Homedale Kuna PD (Ada CSO) Meridian Nampa Parma PD Payette PD Wilder Ada County Boise County Canyon County Owyhee County Washington County	Gooding PD Hailey Heyburn Jerome PD Rupert Wendell Twin Falls PD Jerome County Minidoka County Twin Falls County ISP Region 4	Montpellier PD Pocatello Shelley PD Bannock County Bear Lake County Bingham County Caribou County Power County	Idaho Falls Iona Rigby Rexburg Salmon PD Ucon Bonneville County Custer County Fremont County Jefferson County Lemhi CSO Madison County Teton County

A Transportation Bill for Rural America

The quality and quantity of the transportation systems that serve rural America have been steadily eroding for many decades. Here's an article about this issue. It is a difficult call to determine how to best allocate resources and this article takes a look at the issue.

<http://www.dailyyonder.com/transportation-bill-rural-america/2011/04/20/3288>

Date	Event Description
April 26-27, 2011	HIGHWAY SAFETY DAYS for Youth Idaho State Police Contact: Tecia Ferguson Tecia.ferguson@isp.idaho.gov (208) 884-7224, Find the event on FACEBOOK under Idaho State Police Safe Driving Days. Website http://www.isp.idaho.gov/cvs/index.html
May 23-June 7, 2011	SEAT BELTS Traffic Enforcement Mobilization – Statewide, Contact: Lisa Losness, OHS GCO, lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov (208) 334-8103
June 9, 2011	ITSC (Idaho Traffic Safety Commission) – Spring meeting – Boise, ID. Location ISP Region 3
June 30-July 11, 2011	IMPAIRED DRIVING Traffic Enforcement Mobilization – Statewide, Contact: Kevin Bechen, OHS GCO, kevin.bechen@itd.idaho.gov (208) 334-4467
July 15-26, 2011	AGGRESSIVE DRIVING Traffic Enforcement Mobilization – Statewide, Contact: Cecilia Awusie, OHS GCO, Cecilia.awusie@itd.idaho.gov (208) 334-8112
Aug. 26-Sept. 6, 2011	IMPAIRED DRIVING Traffic Enforcement Mobilization – Statewide, Contact: Kevin Bechen, OHS GCO, kevin.bechen@itd.idaho.gov (208) 334-4467